

Log Steps

The Official Newsletter of the Junior Ranger Program

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Assistant Program Coordinator Mary Kelly and Crew Two pose for a photo on the Ski Jump Trail

Junior Ranger Proverbs: Some Words of Wisdom from Experienced Crew Members.

- Smooth with your boots, pick with your heart.
- Hope for rain when you run out of water.
- When in doubt, remove the inside corner of your water bar.
- Look before you sit, for cactus dwells below.
- We play hard, but we work harder.
- Love your water bar and it will love you back.
- Work is rewarding.
- It's not the numbers in your crew, but the quality of its members that counts.

I Love Work

A Poem

I love working on the trail,
whether in sun or hail.
Cutting down trees is fun,
even when you're sweating a ton.
I love hiking really far,
Just to fix a water bar.
Potluck Fridays are the best,
'Cause you get to share your
food with all the rest.
And though work can be a chore,
With crew one it's so much more!



Rigoberto Chavez-Cantu at work on the Flagstaff Trail.



Crew Leader Maggie Escobar on Homestead Trail

Learning and Service:

An Afternoon with Ranger Rick Hatfield.

Ranger Rick Hatfield speaks highly of his job. As he told us on our first meeting, "Every day is always different." As a ranger naturalist for Open Space and Mountain Parks, his days include education, wildlife management and law enforcement. With contagious enthusiasm, Rick tells us his favorite part is leading educational programs like the one we



were about to participate in. Ranger Hatfield lead us on a short hike along Flagstaff Mountain. As he set up a spotting scope, he enthusiastically told us we would be observing golden eagles. Rick focused the scope on a large nest. Rick expertly answered our questions as we watched the eaglets in the nest flapping its wings and picking at its feathers. We were enraptured by the magnificent birds. Ranger Hatfield explained that the Flatirons and the Boulder area are home to a relatively large population of golden eagles as well as several

other species of raptors. We learned that these birds of prey compete for nesting space on rock ledges by engaging in aerial shows of dominance. The eaglets we were watching would probably fledge in just a few days. Our time on the mountain came to an end all too



quickly. The magic of the eagles had made time stand still. As we made our way back to town, each of us began to realize just how much we had learned in our short time with Ranger Hatfield. Most importantly, we began to understand the importance of our jobs to conservation in our community. We are working in the hope that others may have the same special experience we did on the mountain.

Trail Management Objectives: Shanahan Mesa

Parameter	Complete?
Fundamentals of trail work	Yes!
Team Bonding	Yes!
Environmental Education	YES!
Having a BLAST	Definitely YES!



Melissa Gray, Claire Rocken, Paige Riley and Connor Rowinski show their spirit on the Foothills Trail.